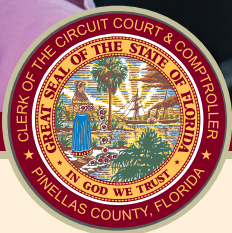


DRIVER IMPROVEMENT COURSE

DEFENSIVE DRIVING

WWW.MYPINELLASCLERK.ORG



Any person charged with a moving traffic violation, who does not hold a commercial driver's license (CDL), is eligible to elect to attend a driver improvement course in lieu of accumulating points on their driver history record—unless the violation involves licenses, registration or insurance, or leaving a child under the age of six unattended in a vehicle.

KEN BURKE, CPA
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
AND COMPTROLLER
PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA

Eligibility Requirements

If you do not possess a commercial driver's license, and have not made an election within the last 12 months or have not made more than 5 elections in your lifetime, you may be eligible to elect to complete a driver improvement/defensive driving course.

Please visit the Department of Highway, Safety and Motor Vehicle's website at <https://services.flhsmv.gov/DLCheck/> to determine your eligibility and obtain a list of approved courses. You may also want to obtain a copy of your driving transcript from DHSMV or purchase a copy from the Clerk's office.

How to Elect

An election must be made within 30 calendar days from the date the ticket was issued. Please complete the information on the option form enclosed in the envelope and return the citation, payment, and option form to the Clerk's office. You may,

- Remit by mail in the pre-addressed envelope to the Clerk's office nearest you.
- Bring in person to any Clerk's office location.
- Pay online using a credit card.

After you have submitted to the Clerk's office your election to take a driver improvement course, please contact a State of Florida-approved school to schedule the course. A list of approved driver improvement schools is on the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles' (DHSMV) website: <http://www.flhsmv.gov/ddl/drivingcourses.html>

Proof of Completion

You must submit proof of completion of the course to the Clerk's office within 60 calendar days from the date you elected to attend. You may mail or bring your certificate of completion to any Clerk's office. You may also email your certificate to ddclerk@mypinellasclerk.org.


Once the Clerk's office receives your proof of completion, the completion will be processed and your driver history will be updated by the DHSMV to reflect "adjudicated withheld" and NO POINTS WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST YOUR DRIVERS LICENSE.


If you fail to submit your certificate of completion by the 60th day for any reason, ALL of the following will apply:


- A processing fee AND late fee may be charged.
- Your driver's license may be suspended.
- A reinstatement fee may be required.
- A conviction of violation will be reported on your driver history.

Additionally, if you elect to attend a driver improvement/defensive driving course and fail to complete within 60 days after your election, the election will still count toward the one election allowed within 12 months and the five elections allowed within your lifetime.

For more information, please call the Clerk's office at (727) 464-7000 or visit www.mypinellasclerk.org

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